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With a market share of more than 90%, Microsoft has a profound advantage over companies such as Netscape, Real Networks, and Apple, who are fighting a perpetual uphill battle to maintain a presence in the market. Any application software that Microsoft chooses to package with its Windows operating system is guaranteed to push all other competitors out of the market. Netscape's browser software used to be the most widely used internet software. Once Microsoft started bundling Explorer with Windows, Netscape's market share dropped to almost nothing. Real Networks and Apple Computer face similar fates with their media products (RealAudio, and QuickTime) which are steadily being pushed out of the market by Windows Media software bundled with every Intel PC.

Action must be taken to restore a balanced and competitive software market, in which the success of a software application is based on its quality, performance, and utility, not the fact that it's bundled for free with an operating system that runs on the majority of the world's personal computers. The proposed Final Judgement is too weak to counter Microsoft's monopoly position in the market, and I urge the DOJ to pursue the breakup of Microsoft into two separate companies for operating systems (Windows) and applications (Word, Excel, Explorer, etc.). This solution will help maintain a healthy and innovative American software industry for years to come.

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